

one who, for nearly three-fourths of a century, had led in many branches of philosophy and useful learning.

*Resolved*, That we recognise no boundaries, no political or civil divisions in philosophy, but consider our eminent, distinguished and learned associate as belonging to us, as well as to the whole scientific world; and we are deeply sensible of the irreparable loss we have all sustained in being deprived of his further labors.

*Resolved*, That his illustrious example ought to spur us on to the scientific development of his favorite working field—the Western Continent—and although we no longer have his presence to cheer us on, we will not slacken in our endeavors to elucidate the Natural History, the Geology and Physical condition of our continent.

The resolutions were then adopted.

The following resolutions were adopted :

That the thanks of the Academy be tendered to Mrs. Sarah R. G. Beck for her valuable donation to the Library, presented this evening.

That the thanks of the Academy be tendered to the executors of the late Dr. Chas. F. Beck for the donation of a microscope presented this evening.

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*June 14th.*

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Forty members present.

A paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings, entitled Herpetological Notices, by Charles Girard, M. D., and was referred to a Committee.

Dr. Uhler called attention to the anæsthetic effect of bisulphide of carbon, which he had accidentally experienced while engaged in its manufacture. The effect was very different from that of sulphydric acid, which accompanies the first distillation of the product, and no unpleasant results followed.

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*June 21st.*

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Forty-five members present.

The following papers were presented for publication in the Proceedings :

Description of a new species of Callinidea, by Theo. Gill.

Description of new generic types of Cottoids from the collection of the North Pacific Exploring Expedition under Com. John Rodgers, by Theo. Gill.

Description of twelve new species of Uniones from Georgia, by Isaac Lea.

And were referred to Committees.

A letter from Dr. C. A. Helmuth, dated Chicago, June 6th, 1859, was read, giving an account of a specimen of *Hydaticus zonatus*, in which the head was only half the usual size, and enveloped in the skin

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of the head of the larva. The oral organs were normal in the number of articulations, but the antennæ were folded up, and their joints are shorter and wider than usual: the palpi are also shorter than usual, and the last joint of the maxillaries is acuminate. The eyes of the imago were concealed by the larva skin, but on raising it are distinctly seen.

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June 28th.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Forty-four members present.

The report of the Biological Department for the present month was read.

On report of the Committee of the Biological Department the paper entitled An Experimental Examination of the physiological effects of Sassy Bark, the ordeal poison of the Western Coast of Africa, by S. W. Mitchell, M. D., and Wm. A. Hammond, M. D., U. S. A., was recommended for publication in a medical Journal.

The paper entitled, Synopsis of North American Sphingidæ, by Brackenridge Clemens, M. D., was ordered to be published in the Journal of the Academy.

And the following were ordered to be printed in the Proceedings.

Description of new generic types of COTTOIDS, from the collection of the North Pacific Exploring Expedition under Com. John Rodgers.

BY THEO. GILL.

CERATOCOTTUS Gill.

Body anteriorly robust, and as broad or broader than high; thence rapidly declining to the caudal fin. Lateral line with a row of bony scutellæ. Head large, with the width greater than the height or length; profile vertical; preopercle and suborbital extended outwards and forwards; preopercle armed with a long and immoveable spine, and with two smaller ones beneath; opercle with a mucated longitudinal rib and with a rounded membranous margin; subopercle with two diverging ridges terminating in spines; postorbital ridge well developed and elevated near the nape. Branchial apertures separated by a very wide isthmus. Branchiostegal rays six. Mouth moderate, horizontal. Dorsal fins entirely disconnected; first low and declining posteriorly; second oblong and corresponding to the anal. Caudal small and posteriorly subtruncated. Pectorals with broad and oblique bases, and with obliquely rounded margins. Ventrals small, moderately approximated, behind the bases of the pectorals; each with a spinous and three simple rays.

This genus is very closely allied to the *Aspicottus* of Girard, or *Clypeocottus* of Ayres, but is easily distinguished by the form of the head, and by the absence of teeth on the anterior portion of the vomer. The latter character has been overlooked by both Cuvier and Bennett, who have both described the species on which the genus is founded, and have referred it to *Cottus*, although one of the characters which Cuvier has assigned to that genus, rested on the presence of vomerine teeth.

A single species of this genus is known; it was long since described by Pallas under the name of *Cottus diceraus*.

1859.]